## WEST END HIGH SCHOOL IN CELEBRATION OF THE 19th ANNUAL REUNION HIGHLIGHTING THE CLASS OF 1966's 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



Starting on Friday, June 24 and ending on Sunday June 26, the West End High School embarked on the 19<sup>th</sup> Reunion at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel in Richmond, VA. This year's Theme "Reuniting Today to Strengthen Tomorrow".

The Richmond Chapter hosted the weekend beginning with a **Meet & Greet**—Backyard Barbecue Buffet on Friday evening—MC Robert Barnette blessed the food and after dinner turned the evening over to the Game Hostess, Ms. Alice Hardy Miller, who kept the entertainment live; everyone dressed for the occasion, enjoyed the backyard buffet, backyard games with prizes for the winners, music/dancing with DJ Big City. On Display was The NFA Banner with documentation donated by Judge Lillian Harris (66) from her mother's mementoes (Principle Dorothy J. Harris). Thomas J. Jones was the guest traveling the farthest—from California. The Oldest Alumni in attendance was Mrs. Virginia Wood Bowers Fenty, Class of 1944.

Continuing on Saturday morning there was a Prayer Breakfast - MC Alice Miller with early AM greetings. Blessing of the food was by Robert Reed. After enjoying the Breakfast Buffet, a Spiritual message was given by guest speaker, Reverend Jacqueline Coleman ('70 BSHS) entitled "A Conversation between an Older Lady and a Jogger" being led to Christ. The speaker captivated those in attendance with this teaching moment. Afterwards we joined in a Memorial for those who have gone to be with God. There were 21 deceased from the Class of '66. Following the breakfast, "The National Business Meeting" took place led by President John Royster. The main focus was on the WEHSNAA mission and goals: it is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, a membership organization supporting school activities, awarding school scholarships to students, and maintaining alumni communication. Also discussed was the vision project to build a museum to house the artifacts from the Historically Black Schools in Mecklenburg County (VA) – site to build on is in discussion. New Officers were

elected: the newly elected National President is Mr. Robert Barnette (WEHS/BSHS-70); it was also noted that the Mecklenburg Chapter's new president is Mr. Clarence Blackwell (68). Congratulations to all.

On Saturday evening 150+ Alumni, Family and Friends enjoyed the National Alumni Banquet/Dance with Richmond Chapter President, Fred Valentine giving a warm welcome; blessing of the food was by Robert Barnette. A Delicious Dinner Buffet was enjoyed by all. John Royster recognized the Class of 1966. The Class President, Mr. Walter Terry gave Reflections of the class whose theme was "A World of Opportunities." After that, John Royster presented (27) 1966 Classmates with Plaques; Mr. George Lancaster inducted (6) Alumni into the "Sports Hall of Fame"; Ms. Alice H. Miller presented (17) Scholarship Awards; and Mrs. Corina Jones Mack crowned the King & Queen, Mrs. Margaret Saunders White and Mr. Percy White (Mecklenburg Chapter).

The WEHS Reunion Weekend ended on Sunday with Alumni attending Worship Service at the St. Peter Baptist Church (Glen Allen, VA). Pastor, Kirkland R. Walton; Dr. Brenda Bowman Walton was the morning speaker with the Service honoring their 2016 Graduates. Morning message was: Under Grace We Walk by Faith; II Corinthians 5:7 – Lessons learned from the fig tree.

Note: The Metropolis Chapter will Host the 2017 Reunion on June 23-25<sup>th</sup>, College Park, MD; Mr. Percy Williams, President. See ya'll there!

Special Thanks to the Richmond Chapter, Mr. Fred Valentine President for an awesome planned weekend ENJOYED BY ALL!

Novella Short Moore, Class of 1966



## **Sports Hall of Fame**

Sandy Townes, George Freeman, Thomas J. Jones, Delta Bowers, and Vivian Bowers Blunt, (nephew Jeremiah accepted for Blunt). There was a plaque award for Clarence Atkinson (he was not present).

## **Scholarship Recipients**



(Present) were Devon Baskerville, Grant Coffield, Terrence Hardy, Diamond Hayes, Antwain Tucker, Breana Vick, Bailey Vick. The recipients who received scholarship awards but were not present included Darius Baskerville, Khari Chase, Alfrederick Coleman, Michala Day, Brian Jacox Jr., Da'Nasia Lewis, Savon Mason, Destiny Staten, Brice Terry, and Diamond Watson.



King & Queen

Margaret Saunders White & Percy White (Mecklenburg)

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